

To: Ayala, Wanda[Ayala.Wanda@epa.gov]
From: karenlf1960@gmail.com
Sent: Wed 5/14/2014 3:27:00 PM
Subject: Re: FW: EPA Proposes Plan to Remove Toxic Sediment from the Passaic River; Largest Cleanup in EPA History Will Protect People's Health and Create Jobs

Hi Wanda,

I will get that to you later today, I am going to find out who would be best to get it all together for you.

On Wed, May 14, 2014 at 11:16 AM, Ayala, Wanda <Ayala.Wanda@epa.gov> wrote:

Greetings karen:

I'm touching base with you regarding our meeting next week at the Franklin School 5/21 @ 6:00 pm. Can you provide me with a contact or maybe you can help me with ensuring we have AV/equipment available to us through the school (screen, microphones, power strips, etc.) and some tables and chairs for us to use for the meeting. I'm handling the logistics and need to have everything in line before the day of.

Any assistance you can provide will be greatly appreciated.

Wanda Ayala

Community Involvement Coordinator

Public Affairs Division

(212) 637-3676

www.epa.gov/region2

<https://blog.epa.gov/greeningtheapple/>

<https://twitter.com/EPAregion2>

<https://www.facebook.com/eparegion2>

"If passion drives you, let reason hold the reins"

- - Benjamin Franklin

From: karenlf1960@gmail.com [mailto:karenlf1960@gmail.com] **On Behalf Of** Kearny Schools Permits

Sent: Thursday, April 24, 2014 8:50 AM

To: Ayala, Wanda

Subject: RE: FW: EPA Proposes Plan to Remove Toxic Sediment from the Passaic River; Largest Cleanup in EPA History Will Protect People's Health and Create Jobs

Hi Wanda,

I am not sending a bill because you asked about a rate I thought you may be compensating other districts at a pre-determined rate or some kind of token fee, we are not billing you.

Karen Ferrara

On Apr 23, 2014 5:46 PM, "Ayala, Wanda" <Ayala.Wanda@epa.gov> wrote:

As I mentioned to you in my earlier emails, we are a government agency and are self-indemnified.

From: karenlf1960@gmail.com [mailto:karenlf1960@gmail.com] **On Behalf Of** Kearny Schools Permits
Sent: Wednesday, April 23, 2014 12:56 PM

To: Ayala, Wanda

Subject: Re: FW: EPA Proposes Plan to Remove Toxic Sediment from the Passaic River; Largest Cleanup in EPA History Will Protect People's Health and Create Jobs

I am sending your permit today - your confirmed. Please send requirements and Certificate of insurance

On Wed, Apr 23, 2014 at 12:03 PM, Ayala, Wanda
<Ayala.Wanda@epa.gov> wrote:

Hi Karen:

Just checking in on this. It is critical that we get the local confirmed given we must advertise the meeting giving the community at least two weeks notice. Anything you can do to expedite the permit will be greatly appreciated.

From: karenlf1960@gmail.com
[mailto:karenlf1960@gmail.com] **On Behalf Of** Kearny
Schools Permits

Sent: Wednesday, April 16, 2014 11:36 AM

To: Ayala, Wanda; mbruscino@kearnyschools.com

Subject: Re: FW: EPA Proposes Plan to Remove Toxic Sediment from the Passaic River; Largest Cleanup in EPA History Will Protect People's Health and Create Jobs

Wanda,

You went thru facility meeting the date is booked, however I can't give you the actual permit until it

goes thru the public board meeting on april 22nd I
will give you permit on april 23rd first thing.

Karen

On Wed, Apr 16, 2014 at 11:23 AM, Ayala, Wanda
<Ayala.Wanda@epa.gov> wrote:

Hi Karen just checking in. As you can
see we made the announcement on last
Friday. We are just awaiting word from
you to use the Franklin School for a
public meeting on May 21. I hope to
hear from you next week because since I
need to confirm locals for the additional
meetings. Anything you can do to
expedite my request will be greatly
appreciated.

Wanda
Ayala

Community Involvement Coordinator

Public Affairs Division

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EPA Proposes Plan to Remove Toxic Sediment

from the Passaic River

Largest Cleanup in EPA History Will Protect People's Health and Create

Contact: Elias Rodriguez, (212) 637-3664, rodriguez.elias@epa.gov

(New York, N.Y. – April 11, 2014) In an historic action that will protect people's health, improve the environment, and benefit riverfront communities, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has proposed a plan to remove 4.3 million cubic yards of highly contaminated sediment from 8.5 miles of the Passaic River in New Jersey. The sediment in the Passaic River is severely contaminated with dioxin, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), heavy metals, pesticides and other contaminants. This contamination is the result of more than a century of industrial activity. The lower eight miles of the Passaic is the most contaminated section of the river. Ninety percent of the volume of contaminated sediment in the Passaic are in the lower eight miles of the river.

The EPA is proposing bank-to-bank dredging – one of the largest volumes ever to be dredged – as part of EPA's Superfund program – followed by capping of the river bottom.

The proposed plan is based on an extensive seven-year study of the lower eight miles of the Passaic River, which was conducted as a focused feasibility study, and was developed in consultation with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and with outreach to representative community groups and local communities along the lower Passaic River. The study examined the contamination and assessed the risks for reducing the risks that the contaminants in this segment of the river pose to people's health and the environment. The EPA will accept public comments on its proposed plan from April 21 to May 1, 2014.

The EPA will hold three public meetings to explain the proposal.

* May 7, 2014 at 7 p.m.

Portuguese Sports Club

55 Prospect Street

Newark, New Jersey, 07105

* May 2014 in Kearny, New Jersey

Specific date and location To Be Determined

* June 2014 in Belleville, New Jersey

Specific date and location To Be Determined

“High concentrations of dioxin, PCBs and other contaminants in the lower eight miles of the Passaic River are a serious threat to the people who eat fish and crabs from this river,” said Judith A. Blum, Regional Administrator. “The EPA’s proposed cleanup plan will result in a cleaner river, protect people’s health and increases the productive use of one of New Jersey’s most important natural resources and creates jobs during the cleanup. Doing less is not good enough for this river or the people who live along it.”

A major source of dioxin in the river was pollution from the Diamond Alkali facility in Newark, New Jersey, where the production of Agent Orange and pesticides during the 1960s generated dioxin that contaminated the land and the river. In addition, approximately 100 companies are potentially responsible for generating and releasing dioxin, PCBs, heavy metals, pesticides and other contaminants. Fish and shellfish in the lower Passaic, its tributaries and Newark Bay are highly contaminated with mercury, PCBs and dioxin. Fisheries along the river have long been closed due to the contamination. Catching crabs is prohibited and there are “Do Not Eat” advisories for all fish. Local planning and development have also been hindered because of sediment contamination. The site was added to the federal Superfund List in 1984.

The lower 17 miles of the Passaic River, which stretches from its mouth at Newark Bay to the Passaic Dam, are part of the Diamond Alkali Superfund site. From 1983 to 2001 extensive cleanup was conducted on land at the Diamond Alkali facility and in the streets and homes near it. The new cleanup plan announced today addresses the lower eight miles of the river portion of the site.

Because of the nature and complexity of the Passaic River contamination, the EPA conducted an investigation and consideration of cleanup options into two studies – one of the entire 17 miles of the Lower Passaic from its mouth to the Dundee Dam and the other focused on just the lower eight miles.

The study of the lower eight miles was conducted by the EPA. A long-term study of contaminated sediment in the 17-mile stretch is ongoing. It is being conducted by a group of approximately 10 parties potentially responsible for the pollution, with the EPA oversight. Information gained from the study was integrated into EPA's proposal for the cleanup of the lower eight miles. A portion of the Passaic Bay is also being studied by one of the parties potentially responsible for the contamination.

In the lower Passaic River, there is an approximately 10-to-15-foot deep reservoir of contaminated, fine-grained sediment in the lower eight miles of the river. Under this plan, about 4.3 million cubic yards of contaminated sediment will be dredged and removed from the Passaic River. Once the contaminated sediment is removed from the river, a protective cap will be placed over the exposed riverbed. The dredged sediment will be capped with two feet of sand except along the shore where it will be capped with one foot of materials to support habitat for fish and plants. The cap will be monitored and maintained to ensure that the cleanup remains protective.

The proposed plan includes several options for managing the contaminated sediment after dredging. Sediment and water quality will be monitored during the work.

After receiving and considering comments from the public, the EPA will finalize a cleanup plan next year. Once a plan is finalized, engineering and design work necessary to carry out the plan will be done in the following years.

The proposed plan builds on dredging that has already occurred in two smaller areas with high concentrations of contaminants. In 2012, the EPA oversaw dredging in the Passaic near the Alkali facility in Newark. About 40,000 cubic yards of the most highly dioxin contaminated sediment were removed, treated and then transported by rail to licensed disposal facilities. In 2013, the EPA oversaw dredging of approximately 16,000 cubic yards of highly contaminated sediment in a stretch of the Passaic River that runs by Riverside County Park North in Lyndhurst, New Jersey. This area is located about 11 miles north of the river mouth and outside of the lower eight miles covered by today's proposed plan. The work, which is ongoing, was necessary because the EPA identified particularly high levels of contamination in the sediment in this portion of the river.

The Superfund program operates on the principle that polluters should pay for the cleanup, rather than passing the costs to taxpayers. The EPA searches for parties legally responsible for the contamination at sites that are placed on the Superfund list and seeks to hold those parties accountable for their actions. Investigations and cleanups. Most of the work to-date to clean up the Passaic has been done by the EPA.

parties responsible for the contamination. The EPA will similarly pursue agreements to ensure that cleanup work proposed today be carried out and paid for by those responsible for the contamination site.

People may submit written comments by mail or email:
Alice Yeh, Remedial Project Manager
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

290 Broadway, New York, New York 10007-1866
(212) 637-4427

PassaicLower8MileComments.Region2@epa.gov

The plan for the lower eight miles of the Passaic River is available at
<http://www.epa.gov/region02/passaicriver> or <http://www.ourpassaic.org>

Follow EPA Region 2 on Twitter at <http://www.twitter.com/eparegion2> and visit our Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/eparegion2>

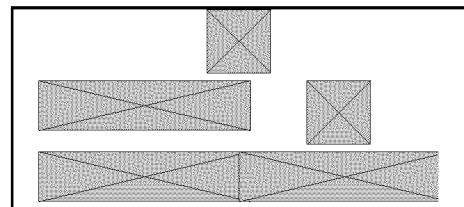
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This email was sent to ayala.wanda@epamail.epa.gov using GovDelivery, on behalf of: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency · 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW · Washington DC 20460 · [202-564-4355](tel:202-564-4355)

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Thank you

Karen Ferrara

Kearny Board of Education

201-955-5003

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Thank you

Karen Ferrara

Kearny Board of Education

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Thank you

Karen Ferrara

Kearny Board of Education

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